

**Permit No. WA 000109-1**

Issue Date: April 1, 2001

Expiration Date: April 1, 2006

Amended June 21, 2002

**NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM  
WASTE DISCHARGE PERMIT**

State of Washington  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY  
Olympia, Washington 98504

In compliance with the provisions of  
The State of Washington Water Pollution Control Law  
**Chapter 90.48 Revised Code of Washington**  
And  
The Federal Water Pollution Control Act  
(The Clean Water Act)  
**Title 33 United States Code, Section 1251 et seq.**

**Georgia-Pacific West, Inc.**  
**300 West Laurel**  
**Bellingham, Washington**

Plant Location

300 West Laurel  
Bellingham, Washington

Receiving Water

Bellingham Bay  
Water Quality Class A

Industry Type

Nonintegrated Tissue

Discharge Location

Latitude 48°, 44', 05" N  
Longitude 122°, 30', 55" W

The above named corporation (Georgia-Pacific West) is authorized to discharge at the location described, in accordance with the special and general conditions contained herein.

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Carol P. Kraege, P.E.  
Supervisor, Industrial Section  
Department of Ecology

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**SUMMARY OF SCHEDULED PERMIT REPORT SUBMITTALS**

<b>Permit Section</b>	<b>Submittal</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>First Submittal Date</b>
S1.B.1	Outfall 009 Discharge Monitoring	Monthly	15th day of month
S1.C.	Report Priority Pollutant Scan	Once per permit term	Within 60 days of receiving final test results
S1.D.	Sediment Sampling and Analysis Plan II	As indicated	Within 180 days of permit expiration
S1.G.	Wastewater Treatment System Engineering Report	As indicated	Prior to making changes in treatment system
S2.	Acute Toxicity Compliance Monitoring Reports	As indicated	Within 30 days of receiving final test results
S3.	Chronic Toxicity Compliance Monitoring Reports	As indicated	Within 30 days of receiving final test results
S5.C.	Solid Waste Control Plan	Update every permit cycle	Submit updated plan with permit renewal application
S6.	Outfall Evaluation	Once each permit cycle	Not later than 6 months before permit expiration
S7.	Treatment System Operating Plan	Once each permit cycle	Within 180 days of permit effective date
S8.	Spill Plan	Update annually	Update within 180 days of permit effective date; submit updates annually (prior to 1 <sup>st</sup> of each year)
S9.	Slime Control Reporting	Annually	Prior to 1 <sup>st</sup> of each year
G17.	Application for Permit Renewal	Once each permit cycle	At least 180 days prior to permit expiration

## SPECIAL CONDITIONS

### S1. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

#### A. Basis of Limitations

Production based effluent limitations for Georgia-Pacific West's paper mill discharges are derived from the following authorities:

- \* Best Practicable Control Technology Currently Available (BPT) as promulgated April 15, 1998 by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Based on the demonstrated highest "12-month average" production levels currently indicated through October 2001, Biochemical Oxygen Demand<sub>5</sub> and Total Suspended Solids effluent limitations are calculated below

Production Grade (Subcategory)	Production, Air Dry Tons/Day	Basis	BOD <sub>5</sub> Pounds/Thousand lbs		TSS Pounds/Thousand lbs	
			Monthly Average	Max. Day	Monthly Average	Max. Day
Tissue From purchased pulp Subpart L	256	BPT	6.25	11.4	5	10.25

#### B. Process Wastewater Limitation and Monitoring Requirements – Outfall 009

Georgia-Pacific West is authorized to discharge from the following listed outfall, subject to the specified limitations and monitoring requirements. They are also authorized to truck in woodwaste leachate from the airport landfill, and introduce it directly to the aerated stabilization basin. There shall be no discharge of floating solids or visible foam in other than trace amounts.

Parameter	Effluent Limitations		Monitoring Requirements	
	Monthly Average <sup>a/</sup>	Daily Maximum <sup>a/</sup>	Frequency	Sample Type
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day), lbs/day	3,200	5,836	Daily <sup>b/</sup>	24 hour composite, refrigerated
Total Suspended Solids, lbs/day	2,560	5,248	Daily <sup>b/</sup>	24 hour composite
pH	5.0 to 9.0 <sup>c/</sup>	-	Continuous <sup>d/</sup>	Recording
Mercury, µg/L <sup>e/</sup>			Weekly/Monthly	24 hour Composite
Flow, MGD	-	-	Continuous	Recording

- a/ The monthly average is the average of daily values obtained over a month's time. The daily maximum is defined as the highest daily value for the same monthly period.
- b/ The BOD and TSS monitoring frequency may be reduced after two years if Georgia-Pacific West remains in compliance with these limitations and meets the other criteria in the Ecology guidance for monitoring reduction for exemplary performance.
- c/ Indicates the range of permitted values. Excursions between 4.0 and 10.0 shall not be considered violations, provided no single excursion exceeds 60 minutes in length, and total excursions do not exceed 7 hours and 26 minutes per month. Any excursions below 4.0 or above 10.0 shall be considered violations. The instantaneous maximum and minimum shall be reported monthly.
- d/ Continuous means uninterrupted –except for brief lengths of time for calibration, power failure, or for unanticipated equipment repair or maintenance.
- e/ Monitor once per week. The level of detection shall be a maximum of 0.2 ug/L. If mercury is not detected at 0.2 ug/L detection level for 26 consecutive weeks, the monitoring frequency shall become monthly. If, while the monitoring frequency is monthly, mercury is detected at or above the 0.2 µg/L detection level the monitoring frequency shall revert to weekly until 12 samples are non-detect for mercury. If after one year of monthly monitoring mercury is not detected at the 0.2 µg/L detection level, the monitoring requirement shall be deemed complete and monitoring may cease. Mercury shall be analyzed by the EPA “CVAA Method 245.1” or the EPA “Method 1631, Revision B: Mercury in Water by Oxidation, Purge and Trap, and Cold Vapor Atomic Fluorescence Spectrometry”.

Georgia-Pacific West shall analyze final mill effluent at least once during the permit term for 4 methylphenol and the priority pollutants identified in EPA Form 3510-2C part C.

Georgia-Pacific West has completed a required phase I sediment sampling required in the original NPDES Permit. Georgia-Pacific West shall also submit to the Department for review and approval, a Sediment Sampling and Analysis Plan II (for sediment monitoring), at least 180 days prior to permit expiration. The purpose of the plan is to characterize sediment quality in the vicinity of the Permittee's discharge locations after closure of the chlor-alkali plant. The plan shall include criteria for determining the need for further sampling and analysis. The Sediment Sampling and Analysis Plan shall follow the guidance provided in the Sediment Source Control Standards User Manual, Appendix B: Sediment Sampling and Analysis Plan Appendix (Ecology, 1995) and updated with the Puget Sound Estuary Program Protocols.

Within 180 days of Department approval of the Sediment Sampling and Analysis Plan II, sediments will be collected and analyzed. Georgia-Pacific West shall submit a Sediment Data Report conforming with the approved Sampling and Analysis Plan and the guidance provided in the Sediment Source Control Standards User Manual, Appendix B: Sediment Sampling and Analysis Plan Appendix (Ecology, 1995)

and Puget Sound Estuary Program Protocols. Within 60 days of receiving final test results, Georgia-Pacific West shall submit to the Department a Sediment Data Report containing the sediment sampling and analysis results.

E. Mixing Zone

Based on a dilution ratio study re-evaluation, conducted in December 2001, in accordance with WAC 173-201A-100, Ecology has approved dilution values of 89 to 1 for the acute zone, and 265 to 1 for the chronic zone for Georgia-Pacific West.

F. Stormwater Allowance

Georgia-Pacific West is authorized to receive, for discharge through the treatment system, stormwater from the mill plant site. The Permittee is also authorized to receive and discharge through the treatment system, stormwater from its adjacent property between Whatcom Waterway and Cornwall Avenue, and from the 8 acres of impervious surface at the 250,000sq/ft "Tissue" warehouse site adjacent to the secondary treatment lagoon.

G. Wastewater Treatment System Engineering Report

Prior to making any changes in the treatment system Georgia-Pacific West shall prepare an engineering report on the proposed wastewater treatment system, in accordance with **Chapter 173-240 WAC** and include the following elements:

1. A schematic of the treatment units.
2. Data showing flow through the treatment units, including recycle streams, for the past 2-3 years. Flow data shall be presented in terms of average dry weather flow, average monthly flow of the maximum month, and peak hourly flow. If flow-monitoring data is not available for wastewater streams, then Georgia-Pacific West shall provide an estimate, stating the estimation method used.
3. Basic design data and sizing calculations for each unit in the wastewater treatment system. Clarifier information should include detention times, overflow rates, solids and weir loading rates, volume and depth. Aeration basin information shall include hydraulic detention time, volumetric loading, sludge depth, and sludge residence time. This information shall be provided for design criteria parameters -- BOD, TSS, where applicable.
4. An analysis of proposed treatment, removal efficiencies, and operating conditions for each treatment unit.
5. Predicted design capacities, including hydraulic and organic loading for each wastewater treatment unit, under the flow conditions described above in (2).
6. Predicted effluent wastewater characteristics at design flows.

## S2. ACUTE TOXICITY

### A. Effluent Characterization

During the first year of the permit term Georgia-Pacific West shall conduct acute toxicity testing on the final effluent to determine the presence and amount of acute (lethal) toxicity. The two acute toxicity tests listed below shall be conducted on each sample taken for effluent characterization. Effluent characterization for acute toxicity shall be conducted every other month for one year.

Acute toxicity testing shall follow protocols, monitoring requirements, and quality assurance/ quality control procedures specified in this Section. A dilution series consisting of a minimum of five concentrations and a control shall be used to estimate the concentration lethal to 50% of the organisms (LC<sub>50</sub>). The percent survival in 100% effluent shall also be reported. A written report shall be submitted to the Department within 60 days after the sample date.

A final Effluent Characterization Summary report shall be submitted to the Department within 90 days after the last monitoring test results are final. This Summary report shall include tabulations of the individual test results, as well as any information (developed during the period of testing) about the sources of toxicity, toxicity source control, correlation with effluent data, and toxicity treatability.

Acute toxicity tests shall be conducted with the following species and protocols:

- 1) Fathead minnow, *Pimephales promelas* (96 hour static-renewal test, method: EPA/600/4-90/027F)
- 2) Daphnid, *Ceriodaphnia dubia*, *Daphnia pulex*, or *Daphnia magna* (48-hour static test, method: EPA/600/4-90/027F). Georgia-Pacific West shall choose one of the three species and use it consistently throughout effluent characterization.

### B. Effluent Limit for Acute Toxicity

After completing one year of effluent characterization, Georgia-Pacific West has an effluent limit for acute toxicity if either of the following conditions exists:

- (1) The median survival of any species in 100% effluent is below 80%, or
- (2) Any one test of any species exhibits less than 65% survival in 100% effluent.

If an effluent limit for acute toxicity is required at the end of one year as a result of effluent characterization (subsection A), Georgia-Pacific West shall immediately complete all applicable requirements in subsections B, D, and F.

If no effluent limit is required at the end of one year, as a result of effluent characterization (subsection A), then Georgia-Pacific West shall complete all applicable requirements in subsections E and F.

**The effluent limit for acute toxicity is no acute toxicity detected in a test concentration of 1.1% effluent.**

In the event of failure to pass the test (described in section S2, subsection C, below) for compliance with the effluent limit for acute toxicity, Georgia-Pacific West is considered to be in compliance with all permit requirements for acute whole effluent toxicity as long as the requirements in subsection E are being met to the satisfaction of the Department.



Acute Critical Effluent Concentration (ACEC) means that a 1.1% effluent concentration is the maximum concentration of effluent allowed, during critical conditions, at the boundary of the zone of acute criteria exceedance assigned pursuant to **WAC 173-201A-100**. The zone of acute criteria exceedance is authorized in section S1, subsection D of this permit.

C. Monitoring for Compliance With an Effluent Limit for Acute Toxicity

Monitoring, to determine compliance with the effluent limit, shall be conducted quarterly for the remainder of the permit term. Georgia-Pacific West shall use each of the species listed in subsection A (above) on a rotating basis, and using—at a minimum—100% effluent, a 1.1% effluent concentration, and a control, for the toxicity tests. Georgia-Pacific West shall schedule the toxicity tests in the order listed in the permit, unless the Department notifies the Permittee (in writing) of another species rotation schedule. The percentage of survival in 100% effluent shall be reported for all compliance monitoring.

Compliance with the effluent limit for acute toxicity means monitoring shows no statistically significant difference in survival between the control and the test concentration representing the ACEC. Georgia-Pacific West shall immediately implement subsection D. if any acute toxicity test conducted for compliance monitoring determines a statistically significant difference in survival between the control and the ACEC using hypothesis testing at the 0.05 level of significance (Appendix H, EPA/600/4-89/001). If the difference in survival between the control and the ACEC is less than 10%, the hypothesis test shall be conducted at the 0.01 level of significance.

D. Response to Noncompliance With an Effluent Limit for Acute Toxicity

If Georgia-Pacific West can not comply with the acute toxicity limit in subsection B, the Permittee shall begin additional compliance monitoring within one week from the time of receiving the test results. This additional monitoring shall be conducted weekly for four consecutive weeks, using the same test and species as the failed compliance test. Testing shall determine the LC<sub>50</sub> and effluent limit compliance. Georgia-Pacific West shall return to the original monitoring frequency in subsection C, after completion of the additional compliance monitoring.

If Georgia-Pacific West believes that a test indicating noncompliance will be identified by the Department as an anomalous test result, the Permittee may notify the Department that the compliance test result might be anomalous and that Georgia-Pacific West intends to take only one additional sample for toxicity testing, and will wait for notification from the Department before completing the additional monitoring required in this subsection. The notification to the Department shall accompany the report of the compliance test result; it shall also identify the Permittee's reason for considering the compliance test result to be anomalous. Georgia-Pacific West shall complete all of the additional monitoring required in this subsection as soon as possible after notification by the Department that the compliance test result was not anomalous. If the one additional sample fails to comply with the effluent limit for acute toxicity, then the Permittee shall proceed, without delay, to complete all of the additional monitoring required in this subsection. The one additional test result shall replace the compliance test result, upon determination by the Department that the compliance test result was anomalous.

If all of the additional monitoring—conducted in accordance with this subsection—complies with the permit limit, Georgia-Pacific West shall search all pertinent and recent facility records (operating records,

monitoring results, inspection records, spill reports, weather records, production records, raw material purchases, pretreatment records, etc.) Based upon the search results, Georgia-Pacific West shall submit a report to the Department identifying possible causes—and preventive measures—for the transient toxicity event that triggered the additional compliance monitoring.

If toxicity occurs in violation of the acute toxicity limit, during the additional compliance monitoring, Georgia-Pacific West shall submit a Toxicity Identification/Reduction Evaluation (TI/RE) plan to the Department within 60 days after test results are final. The TI/RE plan shall be based on **WAC 173-205-100(2)** and shall be implemented in accordance with **WAC 173-205-100(3)**.

E. Monitoring When There Is No Permit Limit for Acute Toxicity

Georgia-Pacific West shall test final effluent once in the last summer, and once in the last winter, prior to submission of the application for permit renewal. All species used in the initial acute effluent characterization (or substitutes approved by the Department) shall be used and the results submitted to the Department as a part of the permit renewal application process.

F. Sampling and Reporting Requirements

1. All reports for effluent characterization or compliance monitoring shall be submitted in accordance with the most recent version of Department of Ecology Publication # WQ-R-95-80, *Laboratory Guidance and Whole Effluent Toxicity Test Review Criteria* with regard to format and content. Reports shall contain bench sheets and reference toxicant results for test methods. If the lab provides toxicity test data on floppy disk for electronic entry into the Department's database, then Georgia-Pacific West shall send the disk to the Department along with the test report, bench sheets, and reference toxicant results.
2. Testing shall be conducted on grab samples. Samples taken for toxicity testing shall be cooled to 4 degrees Celsius, while being collected, and shall be sent to the lab immediately upon completion. The lab shall begin the toxicity testing as soon as possible, but no later than 36 hours after sampling was ended.
3. All samples and test solutions for toxicity testing shall have water quality measurements as specified in Department of Ecology Publication # WQ-R-95-80, *Laboratory Guidance and Whole Effluent Toxicity Test Review Criteria*, or most recent version thereof.
4. All toxicity tests shall meet the quality assurance criteria and test conditions published in the most recent versions of the EPA manual listed in subsection A, and in Ecology's Publication # WQ-R-95-80, *Laboratory Guidance and Whole Effluent Toxicity Test Review Criteria*. If test results are determined by the Department to be invalid or anomalous, testing shall be repeated with freshly collected effluent.
5. Control water and dilution water shall be laboratory water meeting the requirements of the EPA manual listed in subsection A. or pristine natural water of sufficient quality for good control performance.
6. The Whole Effluent Toxicity tests shall be run on an unmodified sample of final effluent.

7. Georgia-Pacific West may choose to conduct a full dilution series test during compliance monitoring in order to determine dose response. In this case, the series must have a minimum of five effluent concentrations and a control. The series of concentrations must include a 1.1% effluent concentration (the ACEC).
8. All Whole Effluent Toxicity tests, effluent screening tests, and rapid screening tests that involve hypothesis testing and do not comply with the acute statistical power standard of 29% (as defined in **WAC 173-205-020**), must be repeated on a fresh sample with an increased number of replicates to increase the power.

### S3. CHRONIC TOXICITY

#### A. Effluent Characterization

During the first year of the permit term Georgia-Pacific West shall conduct chronic toxicity testing on the final effluent. The three chronic toxicity tests listed below shall be conducted on each sample taken for effluent characterization.

A written report shall be submitted to the Department within 60 days after each sample date. A final effluent characterization summary report shall be submitted to the Department within 90 days after the last monitoring test results are final. This summary report shall include a tabulated summary of the individual test results and any information on sources of toxicity, toxicity source control, correlation with effluent data, and toxicity treatability that Georgia-Pacific West developed during the period of testing.

Effluent testing for chronic toxicity shall be conducted every other month for one year. Georgia-Pacific West shall conduct chronic toxicity testing during effluent characterization, on a series of at least five concentrations of effluent, in order to determine appropriate point estimates. This series of dilutions shall include a 1.1% effluent dilution (the ACEC). Georgia-Pacific West shall compare the 1.1% effluent dilution result to the control, using hypothesis testing at the 0.05 level of significance, as described in Appendix H, EPA/600/4-89/001.

Chronic toxicity tests shall be conducted with the three species categories—numbered 1, 2, and 3 below—and the most recent version of the following protocols:

Saltwater Chronic Toxicity	Test Species	Method
Category 1.		
Topsmelt or SILVERSIDE minnow	<i>Atherinops affinis</i> or <i>Menidia beryllina</i>	EPA/600/R-95/136 or EPA/600/4-91/003
Or		
Mysid shrimp	<i>Holmesimysis costata</i> or <i>Mysidopsis bahia</i>	EPA/600/R-95/136 or EPA/600/4-91/003
Category 2.		
Pacific oyster or Mussel	<i>Crassostrea gigas</i> or <i>Mytilus sp.</i>	EPA/600/R-95/136
Category 3.		

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Sea urchin or	<i>Strongylocentrotus</i>	EPA/600/R-95/136
	<i>purpuratus</i> or	
Sand dollar	<i>Dendraster</i>	
	<i>excentricus</i>	

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Georgia-Pacific West shall use the West Coast fish (topsmelt, *Atherinops affinis*) and mysid (*Holmesimysis costata*) for toxicity testing unless the lab cannot obtain a sufficient quantity of a West Coast species in good condition--in which case, the East Coast fish (silverside minnow, *Menidia beryllina*) or mysid (*Mysidopsis bahia*) may be substituted.

The Pacific oyster and mussel tests shall be run in accordance with EPA/600/R-95/136 and the bivalve development test conditions in the Department of Ecology Publication # WQ-R-95-80, *Laboratory Guidance and Whole Effluent Toxicity Test Review Criteria* or most recent version thereof. The laboratory shall use whichever one of the two species that will give a valid result in each particular test.

The sea urchin and sand dollar (echinoderm) test shall be run in accordance with EPA/600/R-95/136 and the echinoderm fertilization test conditions in the Department of Ecology Publication # WQ-R-95-80, *Laboratory Guidance and Whole Effluent Toxicity Test Review Criteria*, or the most recent version thereof. The laboratory shall use whichever one of the two species that will give a valid result in each particular test.

#### B. Effluent Limit for Chronic Toxicity

After completion of effluent characterization, the Permittee has an effluent limit for chronic toxicity if any test conducted for effluent characterization shows a significant difference between the control and the 1.1% effluent concentration at the 0.05 level of significance using hypothesis testing (Appendix H, EPA/600/4-89/001) and shall complete all applicable requirements in subsections C, D, and F.

If no significant difference is shown between the 1.1% effluent concentration and the control in any of the chronic toxicity tests, the Permittee has no effluent limit for chronic toxicity and only subsections E and F apply.

The effluent limit for chronic toxicity is **no toxicity detected in a test concentration of 0.38% effluent.**

In the event of failure to pass the test described in section S3, subsection C for compliance with the effluent limit for chronic toxicity, Georgia-Pacific West is considered to be in compliance with all permit requirements for chronic whole effluent toxicity as long as the requirements in subsection E are being met to the satisfaction of the Department.

The 0.38% effluent concentration is the CCEC (chronic critical effluent concentration), which means the maximum concentration of effluent allowable at the boundary of the mixing zone assigned in Section S1 of this permit, pursuant to **WAC 173-201A-100**.

C. Monitoring for Compliance With an Effluent Limit for Chronic Toxicity

Monitoring to determine compliance with the effluent limit shall be conducted 6 times per year (every other month) for the remainder of the permit term using the two most sensitive species from the effluent characterization study in subsection A above, on a rotating basis and performed using at a minimum a 1.1% effluent concentration (the ACEC), a 0.38% effluent concentration (the CCEC), and a control. Georgia-Pacific West shall schedule the toxicity tests in the order listed in the permit unless the Department notifies the Permittee, in writing, of another species rotation schedule.

Compliance with the effluent limit for chronic toxicity means no statistically significant difference in response between the control and the 0.38% effluent concentration. Georgia-Pacific West shall immediately implement subsection D, if any chronic toxicity test conducted for compliance monitoring determines a statistically significant difference in response between the control and the 0.38% effluent concentration using hypothesis testing at the 0.05 level of significance (Appendix H, EPA/600/4-89/001).

If the difference in response between the control and the 0.38% effluent concentration is less than 20%, the hypothesis test shall be conducted at the 0.01 level of significance.

In order to establish whether the chronic toxicity limit is eligible for removal from future permits, Georgia-Pacific West shall also conduct this same hypothesis test (Appendix H, EPA/600/4-89/001) to determine if a statistically significant difference in response exists between the 1.1% effluent concentration and the control.

D. Response to Noncompliance With an Effluent Limit for Chronic Toxicity

If a toxicity test conducted for compliance monitoring under subsection C. determines a statistically significant difference in response between the CCEC and the control, Georgia-Pacific West shall begin additional compliance monitoring within one week from the time of receiving the test results. This additional monitoring shall be conducted monthly, for three consecutive months, using the same test and species as the failed compliance test. Testing shall be conducted using a series of at least five effluent concentrations, and a control, in order to be able to determine appropriate point estimates. One of these effluent concentrations shall be at 0.38% effluent and must be compared statistically to the nontoxic control, in order to determine compliance with the effluent limit for chronic toxicity as described in subsection C. Georgia-Pacific West shall return to the original monitoring frequency in subsection C, after completion of the additional compliance monitoring.

If Georgia-Pacific West believes that a test indicating noncompliance will be identified by the Department as an anomalous test result, the Permittee may notify the Department that the compliance test result might be anomalous and that Georgia-Pacific West intends to take only one additional sample for toxicity testing and wait for notification from the Department before completing the additional monitoring required in this subsection. The notification to the Department shall accompany the report of the compliance test result and identify the reason for considering the compliance test result to be anomalous. Georgia-Pacific West shall complete all of the additional monitoring required in this subsection, as soon as possible, after notification by the Department that the compliance test result was not anomalous. If the one additional sample fails to comply with the effluent limit for chronic toxicity, then Georgia-Pacific West shall proceed, without delay, to complete all of the additional monitoring required in this

subsection. The one additional test result shall replace the compliance test result, upon determination by the Department that the compliance test result was anomalous.

If all of the additional compliance monitoring, conducted in accordance with this subsection, complies with the permit limit, Georgia-Pacific West shall search all pertinent and recent facility records (operating records, monitoring results, inspection records, spill reports, weather records, production records, raw material purchases, pretreatment records, etc.) Based upon the search results, Georgia-Pacific West shall submit a report to the Department identifying possible causes—and preventive measures—for the transient toxicity event that triggered the additional compliance monitoring.

If toxicity occurs in violation of the chronic toxicity limit during the additional compliance monitoring, Georgia-Pacific West shall submit a Toxicity Identification/Reduction Evaluation (TI/RE) plan to the Department, within 60 days after test results are final. The TI/RE plan shall be based on **WAC 173-205-100(2)** and shall be implemented in accordance with **WAC 173-205-100(3)**.

E. Monitoring When There is No Permit Limit for Chronic Toxicity

Georgia-Pacific West shall test final effluent once in the last summer and once in the last winter prior to submission of the application for permit renewal. All species used in the initial chronic effluent characterization, or substitutes approved by the Department, shall be used; and the results shall be submitted to the Department as a part of the permit renewal application process.

F. Sampling and Reporting Requirements

1. All reports for effluent characterization or compliance monitoring shall be submitted in accordance with the most recent version of Department of Ecology Publication # WQ-R-95-80, *Laboratory Guidance and Whole Effluent Toxicity Test Review Criteria* in regards to format and content. Reports shall contain bench sheets and reference toxicant results for test methods. If the lab provides the toxicity test data on floppy disk, for electronic entry into the Department's database, then Georgia-Pacific West shall send the disk to the Department along with the test report, bench sheets, and reference toxicant results.
2. Testing shall be conducted on grab samples. Samples taken for toxicity testing shall be cooled to 4 degrees Celsius, while being collected, and shall be sent to the lab immediately upon completion. The lab shall begin the toxicity testing as soon as possible, but no later than 36 hours after sampling was ended.
3. All samples and test solutions for toxicity testing shall have water quality measurements, as specified in Department of Ecology Publication # WQ-R-95-80, *Laboratory Guidance and Whole Effluent Toxicity Test Review Criteria* or the most recent version thereof.
4. All toxicity tests shall meet quality assurance criteria and test conditions in the most recent versions of the EPA manual listed in subsection A. and the Department of Ecology Publication # WQ-R-95-80, *Laboratory Guidance and Whole Effluent Toxicity Test Review Criteria*. If test results are determined by the Department to be invalid or anomalous, testing shall be repeated with freshly collected effluent.



5. Control water and dilution water shall be laboratory water meeting the requirements of the EPA manual listed in subsection A or pristine natural water of sufficient quality for good control performance.
6. The whole effluent toxicity tests shall be run on an unmodified sample of final effluent.
7. Georgia-Pacific West may choose to conduct a full dilution series test, during compliance monitoring, in order to determine dose response. In this case, the series must have a minimum of five effluent concentrations and a control. The series of concentrations must include a 1.1% effluent concentration and a 0.38% effluent concentration.
8. All whole effluent toxicity tests, effluent screening tests, and rapid screening tests that involve hypothesis testing and do not comply with the chronic statistical power standard of 39% as defined in WAC 173-205-020 must be repeated on a fresh sample with an increased number of replicates to increase the power.

#### S4. MONITORING AND REPORTING

Georgia-Pacific West shall monitor and report in accordance with the following conditions:

##### A. Reporting

Monitoring results obtained during the previous month shall be summarized and reported on a form provided, or otherwise approved, by the Department. In addition, a summary sheet—listing daily results for the applicable parameters, Method Detection Limits, and Quantification Limits (when applicable), shall be submitted to the department. The report and summary sheet shall be sent to the Department of Ecology, Industrial Section, P. O. Box 47706, Olympia, Washington 98504-7706. Monitoring shall be started on the effective date of the permit and the first report is due on the 15th day of the following month. Monitoring results obtained during the month shall be summarized on the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) Form (EPA 3320-1) and submitted no later than the 15th day of the following month, unless otherwise specified in this permit.

##### B. Records Retention

Georgia-Pacific West shall retain records of all monitoring information—including all calibration and maintenance records and all original recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by this permit, and records of all data used to complete the application for this permit—for a period of at least 3 years. This period of retention shall be extended during the course of any unresolved litigation regarding the discharge of pollutants by Georgia-Pacific West, or when requested by the Director (or the Director's duly authorized delegate).

##### C. Recording Results

For each measurement or sample taken, Georgia-Pacific West shall record the following information:

- (1) the date, exact place, and time of sampling;
- (2) the individual who performed the sampling or measurement;
- (3) the dates the analyses were performed;
- (4) who performed the analyses;
- (5) the analytical techniques or methods used; and
- (6) the results of all analyses.

D. Representative Sampling

Samples and measurements taken to meet the requirements of this permit, shall be representative of the volume and nature of the monitored discharge; this requirement includes representative sampling of any unusual discharge or discharge condition (bypasses, upsets, and maintenance-related conditions affecting effluent quality). After a portion of the composite sample is removed for Georgia-Pacific West's analysis, the remainder of the sample—a 4-8 liter minimum—shall be retained until noon each day. This sample shall be kept refrigerated at 4° centigrade, in the dark.

E. Test Procedures

All sampling and analytical methods used to meet the monitoring requirements specified in this permit shall conform to the *Guidelines Establishing Test Procedures for the Analysis of Pollutants*, contained in 40 CFR Part 136, unless otherwise specified in this permit or approved in writing by the Department.

F. Flow Measurement

Appropriate flow measurement devices and methods, consistent with accepted scientific practices, shall be selected and used to ensure the accuracy and reliability of measurements of the volume of monitored discharges. The devices shall be installed, calibrated, and maintained to ensure that the accuracy of the measurements are consistent with the accepted industry standard for that type of device. Frequency of calibration shall be in conformance with the manufacturer's recommendations—or at a minimum frequency of at least one calibration per year. Calibration records should be maintained for a minimum of three years.

G. Laboratory Accreditation

All monitoring data—other than flow, temperature, settleable solids, conductivity, pH, and internal process control parameters—shall be prepared by a laboratory registered or accredited under the provisions of, Accreditation of Environmental Laboratories, **Chapter 173-50 WAC**. Conductivity and pH shall be accredited if the laboratory must otherwise be registered or accredited. Soils and hazardous waste data are exempted from this requirement, pending the Department's accreditation of laboratories for analysis of these media.

H. Additional Monitoring by Georgia-Pacific West

If Georgia-Pacific West monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by this permit (S1), using test procedures specified by Condition S4 subsection E, then the results of such monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the Permittee's self-monitoring reports.

I. Signatory Requirements

All applications, reports, or written information submitted to the Department shall be signed and certified in accordance with the provisions of 40 CFR Part 122.22.

1. Applications. All permit applications shall be signed by either a principal executive officer of at least the level of vice president of a corporation, a general partner of a partnership, or the



proprietor of a sole proprietorship.

2. Reports. All reports required by this permit and other information requested by the Department shall be signed by a person described above or by a duly authorized representative of that person. A person is a duly authorized representative only if:
  - a. The authorization is made in writing, by a person described above, and submitted to the Department, and
  - b. The authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility (such as the position of plant manager, the superintendent, or a position of equivalent responsibility,) or an individual or position having overall responsibility for environmental matters. A duly authorized representative may thus be either a named individual or any individual occupying a named position.
3. Changes to authorization. If an authorization under paragraph I.2.b is no longer accurate because a different individual or position has the requisite responsibility, a new authorization satisfying the requirements of I.2.b must be submitted to the Department prior to or together with any reports, information, or applications to be signed by an authorized representative.
4. Certification. Any person signing a document under this section shall make the following certification:

"I certify under penalty of law, that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision, in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gathered and evaluated the information submitted. Based upon my inquiry of the person or persons managing the system, or of those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, such information submitted is—to the best of my knowledge and belief—true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for willful violations."

J. Sample Dechlorination

Georgia-Pacific West shall not dechlorinate any effluent samples prior to conducting WET testing.

S5. **SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL**

A. Solid Waste Handling

Georgia-Pacific West shall handle and dispose of all solid waste material in such a manner as to prevent its entry into state ground or surface water.

B. Leachate

Georgia-Pacific West shall not allow leachate from its solid waste material to enter state waters without providing all known, available and reasonable methods of treatment; nor shall the Permittee allow such leachate to cause violations of the State Surface Water Quality Standards, **Chapter 173-201A WAC**, or the State Ground Water Quality Standards, **Chapter 173-200 WAC**. The Permittee shall apply for a permit, or permit modification, as may be required for such discharges to state ground or surface waters.

**C. Solid Waste Control Plan**

Georgia-Pacific West submitted a solid waste control plan, that was subsequently approved by the Department. This plan includes all solid wastes, with the exception of those solid wastes regulated by Chapter 173-303 WAC (Dangerous Waste Regulations). The plan includes—at a minimum—a description, source, generation rate, and disposal methods for such solid wastes. This plan shall not be at variance with any approved local solid waste management plan. The Permittee shall comply with the plan, and with any modifications thereof as are approved by the Department. Georgia-Pacific West shall submit a plan update with any application for permit renewal, 180 days prior to expiration of this permit.

**S6. OUTFALL EVALUATION**

Georgia-Pacific West shall inspect the submerged portion of the outfall line and diffuser to evaluate and document its integrity. If conditions allow for a photographic verification, it shall be included in a report summarizing outfall inspection results, that Georgia-Pacific West submits to the Department. The outfall inspection report shall be submitted to the Department no later than six months prior to permit expiration.

**S7. TREATMENT SYSTEM OPERATING PLAN**

Wastewater treatment systems shall be operated according to procedures and criteria described in an operating plan. This plan shall be prepared/updated and submitted to the Department, for evaluation and approval, within 180 days of the issuance date of this permit. The plan shall include, but is not limited to, the following:

- A baseline operating condition description of the operating parameters and procedures used to meet the effluent limitations of S1, at the production levels used in developing these limitations.
- The plan shall describe alternate operating procedures and conditions needed to maintain design treatment efficiency in the event that production levels drop below the baseline levels used to establish these limitations. Monitoring and reporting changes shall also be described in the plan.
- A description of any regularly scheduled maintenance or repair activities at the permitted facilities, which would affect the volume or character of the wastes discharged; a list, including quantities and chemical compositions, of any maintenance-related substances (such as cleaners, degreasers, solvents, etc.) that will be discharged; and a plan for monitoring and treating/controlling the discharge of maintenance-related materials.
- This plan shall be updated to include requirements for any major modifications of the treatment system.
- At lower production levels, Georgia-Pacific West shall operate the treatment system to meet its optimum design efficiency.

**S8. SPILL CONTROL PLAN**

Georgia-Pacific West shall annually update its existing Spill Control Plan—subject to Departmental approval—for the prevention, containment, and control of spills or unplanned discharges of:

- 1) oil and petroleum products,
- 2) materials, which when spilled, or otherwise released into the environment, are designated Dangerous (DW) or Extremely Hazardous Waste (EHW) by the procedures set forth in **WAC 173-303-070**, or
- 3) other materials which may become pollutants or cause pollution upon reaching state's waters.

Georgia-Pacific West shall follow the plan, and any supplements, throughout the term of permit. An updated Spill Control Plan shall be submitted to the Department, for Ecology's evaluation and approval, within six months of the issue date of this permit.

The updated spill control plan shall include the following:

- A description of the reporting system which will be used to alert responsible managers and legal authorities, in the event of a spill.
- A description of preventive measures and facilities (including an overall facility plot showing drainage patterns) which prevent, contain, or treat spills of these materials.
- A list of all oil and chemicals used/processed/stored at the facility that may spill into state waters.

For purposes of meeting this requirement, Georgia-Pacific West may submit plans and manuals required by 40 CFR Part 112, and contingency plans required by **Chapter 173-303 WAC**.

**S9. SLIME CONTROL REPORTING**

In-plant slime control methods and materials shall be reported in detail, annually, giving the description, amount, and periods of application of each slimicide used. Any deviation from these techniques shall be reported as soon as practicable.

**S10. REOPENER CLAUSE**

The Department may reopen and revise or amend this permit, if needed to coordinate with issues raised in the watershed/geographic analysis process.

**S11. SHORT-TERM WATER QUALITY VARIANCE**

The Georgia-Pacific West may perform periodic activities deemed necessary by Ecology such as maintenance, repair, or remediation which might temporarily violate permit or water quality parameters, provided the activities are in accordance with WAC 173-201A-110 and Ecology is notified in advance of such activities. Such activities require Ecology's written approval prior to their commencement.

## **GENERAL CONDITIONS**

### **G1. DISCHARGE VIOLATIONS**

All discharges and activities authorized by this permit shall be consistent with the terms and conditions of this permit. The discharge of any pollutant more frequently than, or at a concentration in excess of, that authorized by this permit shall constitute a violation of the terms and conditions of this permit.

### **G2. PROPER OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

The Permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of collection, treatment, and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the Permittee for pollution control.

### **G3. REDUCED PRODUCTION FOR COMPLIANCE**

In order to maintain compliance with this permit, the Permittee shall control production and/or all discharges—upon reduction, loss, failure, or bypass of the treatment facility—until the facility is restored or an alternative method of treatment is provided. This requirement applies in the situation where, among other things, the primary source of power of the treatment facility is reduced, lost, or fails.

### **G4. NONCOMPLIANCE NOTIFICATION**

If for any reason, the Permittee does not comply with, or will be unable to comply with, any of the discharge limitations or other conditions specified in the permit, the Permittee shall, at a minimum, provide the Department with the following information:

- A. A description of the nature and cause of noncompliance, including the quantity and quality of any unauthorized waste discharges;
- B. The period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times and/or the anticipated time when the Permittee will return to compliance; and
- C. The steps taken, or to be taken, to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance.

In addition, the Permittee shall take immediate action to stop, contain, and clean up any unauthorized discharges. The Permittee shall also take all reasonable steps to minimize any adverse impacts to waters of the state, and to correct the problem. The Permittee shall notify the Department by telephone so that an investigation can commence; the Department will evaluate both any resulting impacts, and the corrective actions taken, to determine whether additional action should be taken.

In the case of a discharge—whether subject to an applicable toxic pollutant effluent standard under Section 307(a) of the Clean Water Act, or which could constitute a threat to human health, welfare, or the environment—40 CFR Part 122 requires that the information specified in Section G4, subsections A, B, and C (above), shall be provided not later than 24 hours from the time the Permittee becomes aware of the

circumstances. If information about an unauthorized discharge is provided orally, a written submittal covering these points shall be provided within five days of the time the Permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. The Department may waive or extend the performance period of this requirement, on a case-by-case basis.

Compliance with these requirements does not relieve the Permittee from responsibility to maintain continuous compliance with the conditions of this permit, nor is the Permittee relieved of the resulting liability for failure to comply.

#### **G5. BYPASS PROHIBITION**

The intentional bypass of wastes from all or any portion of a treatment works is prohibited unless the following four conditions are met:

- A. The bypass is: (1) unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage\*; or (2) necessary to perform construction or maintenance-related activities essential to meet the requirements of the Clean Water Act, and is authorized by Administrative Order;
- B. There are no feasible alternatives to bypass—such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities, the retention of untreated wastes, the maintenance during normal periods of equipment down time, or the temporary reduction or termination of production;
- C. The Permittee submits notice of an unanticipated bypass to the Department, in accordance with Condition G4. Where the Permittee knows—or should have known—in advance, of the need for a bypass: Prior notification shall be submitted to the Department for approval—if possible—at least 30 days before the date of bypass (or longer, if specified in the special conditions);
- D. The bypass is allowed under conditions determined by the Department to be necessary, to minimize any adverse effects. The public shall be notified and given an opportunity to comment on bypass incidents of significant duration, to the extent feasible.

\*"Severe property damage" means substantial physical damage to property, damage to the treatment facilities which would cause them to become inoperable, or substantial and permanent loss of natural resources which can reasonably be expected to occur in the absence of a bypass. *Severe property damage does not mean economic loss caused by delays in production.*

After consideration of the factors above, and the adverse effects of the proposed bypass, the Department will approve or deny the request. Approval of a request to bypass will be by Administrative Order under **RCW 90.48.120**.

#### **G6. RIGHT OF ENTRY**

The Permittee shall allow an authorized representative of the Department, upon the presentation of credentials and such other documents as may be required by law:

- A. To enter upon the premises where a discharge is located, or where any records must be kept under the terms and conditions in this permit;
- B. Access, at reasonable times, and the Permittee shall allow the Department's representative to copy any records that must be kept under the terms of the permit;
- C. To inspect, at reasonable times, any monitoring equipment or method of monitoring required in the permit;
- D. To inspect, at reasonable times, any collection, treatment, pollution management, or discharge facilities; and
- E. To sample, at reasonable times, any discharge of pollutants.

**G7. PERMIT MODIFICATIONS**

The Permittee shall submit a new application or supplement to the previous application when facility expansions, production increases, or process modifications will (1) result in new or substantially increased discharges of pollutants or a change in the nature of the discharge of pollutants, or (2) violate the terms and conditions of this permit.

**G8. PERMIT MODIFIED OR REVOKED FOR CAUSE**

After notice and opportunity for public hearing, this permit may be modified, terminated, or revoked during its term for cause including, but not limited to, the following:

- A. Violation of any terms or conditions of the permit;
- B. Failure of the Permittee to disclose fully all relevant facts, or a misrepresentation of any relevant facts by the Permittee, during the permit issuance process;
- C. A change in any condition that requires either a temporary or a permanent reduction, or the elimination, of any discharge controlled by the permit;
- D. Information indicating that the permitted discharge poses a threat to human health or welfare;
- E. A change in ownership or control of the source; or
- F. Other causes listed in 40 CFR 122.62 and 122.64.

Permit modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination may be initiated by the Department or by request of any interested person.

**G9. REPORTING A CAUSE FOR MODIFICATION**

A Permittee who knows or has reason to believe that any activity has occurred, or will occur, which would constitute cause for modification or revocation-and-reissuance under Condition G8 or 40 CFR 122.62, must report such information to the Department so that a decision can be made on whether action to modify or revoke-and-reissue a permit will be required. The Department may then require submission of a new application. Submission of such application does not relieve the Permittee of the duty to comply with the existing permit until it is modified or reissued.

**G10. TOXIC POLLUTANTS**

If any applicable toxic effluent standard or prohibition (including any schedule of compliance specified in such effluent standard or prohibition) is established under Section 307(a) of the Clean Water Act for a toxic pollutant, and such standard or prohibition is more stringent than permit limitations upon such pollutant, the Department shall institute proceedings to modify or revoke-and-reissue the permit to conform to the new toxic effluent standard or prohibition.

**G11. PLAN PREVIEW REQUIRED**

Prior to constructing or modifying any wastewater control facilities, detailed plans shall be submitted to the Department for approval in accordance with **Chapter 173-240 WAC**. Facilities shall be constructed and operated in accordance with the approved plan.

**G12. OTHER REQUIREMENTS OF 40 CFR**

All other requirements of 40 CFR 122.41 and 122.42 are incorporated in this permit by reference.

**G13. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS AND STATUTES**

Nothing in the permit shall be construed as excusing the Permittee from compliance with any applicable federal, state, or local statutes, ordinances, or regulations.

**G14. ADDITIONAL MONITORING**

The Department may establish specific monitoring requirements, in addition to those contained in this permit, by Administrative Order or by permit modification.

**G15. REVOCATION FOR NONPAYMENT OF FEES**

The Department may revoke this permit if the permit fees established under **Chapter 173-224 WAC** are not paid.

**G16. REMOVED SUBSTANCES**

Collected screenings, grit, solids, sludges, filter backwash, or other pollutants removed in the course of treatment or control of wastewaters, shall not be resuspended or reintroduced to the final effluent stream for discharge to state waters.

**G17. DUTY TO REAPPLY**

The Permittee must reapply, for permit renewal, at least 180 days prior to the specified expiration date of this permit.